

1 PETER

EXILED

STANDING FIRM IN GOD'S GRACE



Christian Warfare

1 Peter 4.1-11

Main Idea

Just as Christ willfully suffered and is now victorious, so arm yourselves to fight against your passions and possibly suffer while living a life of loving service that God may receive glory through Jesus Christ.

Overview

- **Arm yourselves against Human Passions**
 - Type of Thinking = Christ the righteous suffered for the unrighteous to bring us to God, but He now reigns (1 Peter 3.18, 22)
 - If you suffer in the flesh you cease from sin (v 1)
 - Your suffering means you didn't disobey
 - Which means you are living for the will of God (v 2)
 - Do not live as the Gentiles doing whatever they want to do (v 3-4)
 - This is debauchery (v 4)
 - They will give account and be judged by God (v 5)
 - Even though they may judge Christians God will judge them (v 6)
 - Christians will continue to live as God does (v 6)
- **Live for Gods Passions**
 - Whereas in vss 1-6 someone is giving into all their passions, vss. 7-11 are the opposite
 - The end is at hand (live as though that were true as opposed to the other) (v 7)
 - Be self controlled and sober minded: Check your passions (v 7)
 - Love one another earnestly as it covers a multitude of sins (v 8)
 - Show hospitality without grumbling (v 9)
 - As each has a gift use it to serve one another (v 10)
 - Whoever speaks oracles, whoever serves as one who serves with the strength that God supplies (v 10)
- **Bring Glory to God through Jesus Christ**
 - This is the reason for which we do everything
 - Bringing glory to God through Jesus is living for the praise, glory, and exaltation of Him
 - We can only bring glory to the Father through Jesus Christ because He is the only thing that makes us acceptable to God
 - Additionally...the Father has always been pleased to receive Joy in the Pleasure of His Son

Questions

Discussion Starter: *Choose a favorite TV Comedy and ascertain when/if they encourage human passions or check them.*

1. Read 1 Peter 4:1-11. What are some ways you have “suffered in the flesh” and how does this evidence ceasing from sin and living for God’s will?
2. What does it look like to “arm yourselves with the same way of thinking” so that you suffer as Christ suffered?
3. Name 1 specific “attack” that you face each day. What is one practical way you can “arm yourself” against this attack?
4. Why God would not want the things listed in verse 3 in our new life?
5. While they malign us for not participating in sin, what will happen to those that judge us? Do you find Jesus speaking this same way? How does this encourage our obedience?
6. How do we live in the same way God does though judged by people in the flesh?
7. Using verses 7-11 show how there is an opposite trend to those that are giving into human passions.
8. How does an earnest love “cover” a multitude of sins? Examples?
9. Encourage one another in ways you have seen hospitality in one another. Share ideas about how you can do the same to new people.
10. What are you to do with gifts?
11. Why is it that we give glory to God through Jesus Christ? What does this look like?

Accountability question: *What are some areas you are struggling to exude self-control/sober mindedness?*